

# Threatened and Endangered Species in Forests of Wisconsin

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# CAREY'S SEDGE

(*Carex careyana*)

Federal Status: Not Listed

State Status: Threatened



**Description:** This sedge grows in tufts or clumps 1 to 1 1/2 feet tall. The stems are triangular and purple at their bases. The leaves



are 8 to 14 inches long and  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch wide, evergreen and bright green. From the center of the clump grow spikes, some male and others female, bearing tiny green flowers. The female flowers develop sharply three-angled seeds, each  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch long and enclosed in a small specialized leaf with many veins. A hand lens is required to identify this plant properly.

**Habitat:** This sedge occurs in rich, hardwood forests.

**Forestry Considerations:** Carey's sedge requires shade to grow well. Therefore, in forests where it grows, single-tree selection silviculture is preferred.

